

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 CU-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 USIA-06

AF-06 ARA-06 EA-07 EUR-12 NEA-10 L-03 SP-02 /072 W

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R 051007Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4883

INFO USMISSION USUN

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO, XF

SUBJECT: IOC 9TH ASSEMBLY DECISION ON ARABIC LANGUAGE:  
IMPLEMENTATION POSTPONED

1. COMPROMISE DRAFT RESOLUTION WHICH EFFECTIVELY POSTPONES DECISION ON IMPLEMENTATION OF ARABIC AS AN IOC WORKING LANGUAGE TO NEXT IOC ASSEMBLY IN 1977, WAS ADOPTED NOVEMBER 4 BY VOTE OF 48 IN FAVOR TO NONE AGAINST TO TWO ABSTENTIONS (US, SOUTH AFRICA). TEXT "INSTRUCTS" IOC EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO PRESENT TO NEXT IOC EXECUTIVE COUNCIL A PLAN FOR "GRADUAL IMPLEMENTATION" OF ARABIC. OPERATIVE PARAS ALSO A) DIRECT ("INVITES") UNESCO DG TO "CONSIDER" INCREASING IOC BUDGET UNDER REGULAR PROGRAM TO MEET FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS OF IMPLEMENTATION; AND B) CALLS UPON ("INVITES") ARAB STATES "TO HELP DEFRAY" COSTS BY CONTRIBUTING TO IOC TRUST FUND.

2. ARABS, REPRESENTED BY EGYPT, DELETED A FINAL OPERATIVE PARA IN INITIAL DRAFT RESOLUTION TEXT, WHICH PROVIDED FOR IMMEDIATE DECISION "SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY OF SUFFICIENT FUNDS" TO AMEND IOC RULES OF PROCEDURE TO INCLUDE ARABIC, TO REPLACE WITH PARA DECIDING TO "REFER MATTER" TO THE  
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TENTH IOC ASSEMBLY. ARAB BACK-OFF RESULTED

FROM FRG MOVE, SECONDED BY US ALONE, TO OVERRULE  
CHAIR'S RULING TO HAVE VOTE ON ORIGINAL TEXT IN  
ORDER TO CALL FOR OPINION FROM UNESCO LEGAL ADVISER ON  
TEXT'S LEGALITY.

3. COMPROMISE TEXT SUFFICIENTLY SATISFACTORY TO WEO'S,  
INCLUDING SCANDINAVIA AND EXCEPTING FRANCE, WHICH HAD  
ALONG WITH US ADVISED ARABS IN CORRIDORS THAT COST  
IMPLICATIONS PRECLUDED ACCEPTANCE OF ARABIC AS WORKING  
LANGUAGE. ARABS FAILED BY 10 VOTES ON NOVEMBER 3 TO  
GAIN 44 VOTE MAJORITY OF IOC MEMBER STATES--AS DISTINCT  
FROM MAJORITY OF ONLY THOSE VOTING--TO AMEND RULES OF  
PROCEDURE OUTRIGHT FOR IMMEDIATE INCLUSION OF ARABIC AS  
AN IOC WORKING LANGUAGE. COUNT OF INSUFFICIENT "AYE"  
VOTES INDICATED NO NEED FOR OPPOSING VOTE ON NOVEMBER 3  
MEASURE AND US JOINED 18 OTHERS ABSTAINING.

4. US POSITION CLEARLY STATED FOR IOC ASSEMBLY RECORD  
AND ALSO CLEARLY REGISTERED IN PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS  
WITH ARABS WHO, THROUGH EGYPT AND TUNISIA, EXPRESSED  
DESIRE TO AVOID CONFRONTATION WITH US AND OTHER NON-BLOC  
BIG DONORS.

5. COMMENT: NOVEMBER 4 COMPROMISE MEASURE WAS BEST  
OBTAINABLE FROM US STANDPOINT BUT DELEGATION ABSTAINED,  
JOINED ONLY BY SOUTH AFRICA, IN LIGHT STANDING  
INSTRUCTIONS.  
RUSH

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ShawDG  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** ShawDG  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 27 MAY 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <27 MAY 2003 by ElyME>; APPROVED <12 NOV 2003 by ShawDG>  
**Review Markings:**

Margaret P. Grafeld  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
06 JUL 2006

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** IOC 9TH ASSEMBLY DECISION ON ARABIC LANGUAGE: IMPLEMENTATION POSTPONED  
**TAGS:** AORG, OCON, XF, UNESCO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006